Docket No.: 09450/0203332-US0

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ball joint comprising:

- a housing with an opening portion;
- a ball head portion rotatably housed in this said housing;
- a ball stud with comprising:
- a stud portion provided in a protruding manner from <u>said</u>this ball head portion, <u>and</u> protruding from said opening portion; and
- a brim portion provided in a protruding manner on an outside surface of <u>said</u>this stud portion; and

an elastic approximately pipe-formed dust cover inserted through said stud portion, provided across an outside surface of said housing and an outside surface of said stud portion so as to block said opening portion, wherein said dust cover comprising: is provided with

- a first lip portion—which is closely fitted in a manner urged toward a ball head portion-side end face of said brim portion; and
- a second lip portion which is closely fitted in a manner urged toward an outside surface of said brim portion.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 1, wherein <u>said</u>the first lip portion is, in a manner urged toward a ball head portion-side end face of <u>said</u>the brim portion, <u>and</u> closely fitted <u>like a surface</u> to a part of <u>said</u>this end face.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 1—or Claim 2, wherein saidthe second lip portion is, in a manner urged toward an outside surface of the brim portion, and closely fitted like a surface to a part of saidthis—outside surface.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): The ball joint as set forth in any of-Claim 1 through Claim 3, wherein said the dust cover is provided with a pocket portion provided between said the first lip portion, said and second lip portion and said brim portion of said the ball stud, retaining a lubricant member inside.

Claim 5 (new): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said second lip portion is urged toward an outside surface of the brim portion, and closely fitted to a part of said outside surface.

Claim 6 (new): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said dust cover is provided with a pocket portion between said first lip portion, said second lip portion and said brim portion of said ball stud, retaining a lubricant member inside.

Claim 7 (new): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said dust cover is provided with a pocket portion between said first lip portion, said second lip portion and said brim portion of said ball stud, retaining a lubricant member inside.

Claim 8 (new): The ball joint as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said dust cover is provided with a pocket portion between said first lip portion, said second lip portion and said brim portion of said ball stud, retaining a lubricant member inside.